

**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF LEESBURG COMMISSION MEETING
AUGUST 11, 2003**

The City of Leesburg Commission held a regular meeting Monday, August 11, 2003, in the Commission Chambers at City Hall. Mayor Connelly called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. with the following members present:

Commissioner Bob Lovell
Commissioner Ben Perry
Commissioner Lewis Puckett
Commissioner David Knowles
Mayor David Connelly

Also present were City Manager (CM) Ron Stock, Acting City Clerk (ACC) Betty Richardson, City Attorney (CA) Fred Morrison, Deputy City Clerk (DCC) Diane Gibson Smith, the news media, and others.

Commissioner Lovell gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**APPROVED CITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR
MEETING HELD JULY 28, 2003 AND THE BUDGET WORKSHOP HELD
JULY 21, 2003**

Commissioner Puckett moved to approve the City Commission minutes of the regular meeting held July 28, 2003 and the budget workshop held July 21, 2003. Commissioner Knowles seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS:

A. Service Awards

1. Police Chief Idell presented Peggy Wofford, Police Department, a service award for twenty years with the City of Leesburg.
2. Deputy City Manager Johnson presented Pam Hester, Administration, a service award for fifteen years with the City of Leesburg.
3. Fire Chief Sargent presented Mike Jacobs a service award for fifteen years in the Fire Department.

B. Mayor Connelly presented certificates to Tiny Miss Leesburg Kelsi Croft; Little Miss Leesburg Alexis Todd; Junior Miss Leesburg Kaylee Pelton; Teen Miss Leesburg Meghan Isom; Miss Leesburg Ashley Hux. Miss Hux thanked the Commission for their continuing support.

C. Janet Davis, winner of the Name the Trail contest, thanked the Commissioners for the new bike. She stated she decided to return the bike and give the money back to the City to go towards a bench on the trail. Suzanne Reynolds of Rails-to-Trails presented the City with a matching check. She noted Leesburg is the forerunner in the Rails to Trails projects.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Pulled – A3 (Purchase furniture for Police Department)

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Commissioner Perry moved to approve the Consent Agenda except for item A3 and Commissioner Puckett seconded the motion. The roll call vote was:

Commissioner Lovell	Yea
Commissioner Perry	Yea
Commissioner Puckett	Yea
Commissioner Knowles	Yea
Mayor Connelly	Yea

Five yeas, no nays, the Consent Agenda was approved as follows:

PURCHASING ITEMS:

- | | | |
|---|----------------|--|
| 1 | State Contract | Purchase telephone equipment for the Communications Dept. awarded to Southeastern Telecom, Inc. for \$50,862.19. |
| 2 | State Contract | Purchase computer electronics for the Communications Dept. awarded to CDW-G for \$44,290.00. |
| 3 | State Contract | Purchase miscellaneous furniture for new Police Dept. building (\$46,612.00) PULLED. |

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION 6875

A resolution of the City Commission of the City of Leesburg, Florida, authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute an agreement between the City of Leesburg and Florida State University, for and on behalf of its Board of Trustees for seven (7) levels course presentation in the Certified Public Manager Program; and providing an effective date.

RESOLUTION 6876

A resolution of the City Commission of the City of Leesburg, Florida, authorizing and directing the City Manager of the City of Leesburg to accept a grant application from the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs Bureau of Justice Assistance under the Bullet Proof Vest Partnership Grant program; and providing an effective date.

RESOLUTION 6877

A resolution of the City Commission of the City of Leesburg, Florida, authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute a supplemental joint participation agreement between the City of Leesburg and the Florida Department of Transportation for the purpose of funding Federal security requirements at the Leesburg Regional Airport; and providing an effective date.

RESOLUTION 6878

A resolution of the City Commission of the City of Leesburg, Florida, authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute an agreement between the City of Leesburg and The Federal Aviation Administration for funding for construction of Taxiway K Extension Project; and providing an effective date.

RESOLUTION 6879

A resolution of the City Commission of the City of Leesburg, Florida, approving the classification and pay plan for Fiscal Year 2003 – 04; and providing an effective date.

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OTHER AGENDA ITEMS:

Appropriate Forfeiture Funds of \$700.00 to assist with the African-American Male Teen Summit.

PULLED BID ITEM FOR PURCHASE OF MISCELLANEOUS FURNITURE FOR THE NEW POLICE DEPARTMENT BUILDING FOR \$ 46,612.00

Commissioner Perry moved this item be pulled from the agenda, as he would like to see local vendors able to bid on this. Commissioner Knowles seconded the motion.

Commissioner Puckett questioned if this was for special furniture. CM Stock stated the furniture was standard type.

Mayor Connelly requested a voice vote. The members voted unanimously to allow local vendors to bid on this item.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

ADOPTED ORDINANCE 03-73 AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2002-03 BUDGET FOR THE WASTEWATER FUND

ACC Richardson read the ordinance by title only, as follows:

An ordinance of the City Commission of the City of Leesburg, Florida amending the Fiscal Year 2002-03 budget for the Wastewater Fund, and providing an effective date.

Commissioner Perry moved to adopt the ordinance and Commissioner Knowles seconded the motion. The roll call vote was:

Commissioner Perry	Yea
Commissioner Puckett	Yea
Commissioner Knowles	Yea
Commissioner Lovell	Yea
Mayor Connelly	Yea

Five yeas, no nays, the Commission adopted the ordinance.

ADOPTED ORDINANCE 03-74 AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2002-03 BUDGET FOR THE GAS FUND

ACC Richardson read the ordinance by title only, as follows:

An ordinance of the City Commission of the City of Leesburg, Florida amending the Fiscal Year 2002-03 budget for the Gas Fund, and providing an effective date.

Commissioner Perry moved to adopt the ordinance and Commissioner Knowles seconded the motion. The roll call vote was:

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Commissioner Puckett	Yea
Commissioner Knowles	Yea
Commissioner Lovell	Yea
Commissioner Perry	Yea
Mayor Connelly	Yea

Five yeas, no nays, the Commission adopted the ordinance.

ADOPTED ORDINANCE 03-75 AMENDING §4-42 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE T-HANGAR LEASES ON FORMS APPROVED BY RESOLUTION

ACC Richardson read the ordinance by title only, as follows:

An ordinance of the City of Leesburg, Florida, amending §4-42 of the Code of Ordinances pertaining to leases at Leesburg Regional Airport; authorizing the City Manager to execute leases of T-Hangar spaces on forms approved by resolution of the City Commission; repealing conflicting ordinances; providing a savings clause; and providing an effective date.

Commissioner Lovell moved to adopt the ordinance and Commissioner Perry seconded the motion. The roll call vote was:

Commissioner Knowles	Yea
Commissioner Lovell	Yea
Commissioner Perry	Yea
Commissioner Puckett	Yea
Mayor Connelly	Yea

Five yeas, no nays, the Commission adopted the ordinance.

ADOPTED RESOLUTION 6880 APPROVING A FORM LEASE FOR T – HANGAR SPACES AT LEESBURG REGIONAL AIRPORT

Commissioner Perry introduced the resolution to be read by title only. ACC Richardson read the resolution as follows:

A resolution of the City Commission of the City of Leesburg, Florida, approving a form lease for T-hangar space at Leesburg Regional Airport, in accordance with §4-42 of the Code of Ordinances, which may be executed on behalf of the City by the City Manager; and specifying an effective date.

Commissioner Lovell moved to adopt the resolution and Commissioner Perry seconded the motion. The roll call vote was:

Commissioner Lovell	Yea
Commissioner Perry	Yea
Commissioner Puckett	Yea
Commissioner Knowles	Yea

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Mayor Connelly

Yea

Five yeas, no nays, the Commission adopted the resolution.

FINAL OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMISSION TO MAKE MOTIONS TO CHANGE THE PROPOSED BUDGET

Commissioner Perry moved to add a priority list for the next 30 years of the underground program. The other commissioners agreed as long as there was some flexibility in the list. Commissioner Knowles seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Commissioner Perry moved to change the grants and aids so the Boys and Girls Club, the Partnership, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Cultural Arts all receive \$30,000 this year. Commissioner Puckett seconded the motion.

Commissioner Lovell made a motion to amend Commissioner Perry's motion and to keep the Chamber of Commerce and Partnership at the same level and increase the aid to the Boys and Girls Club. Commissioner Knowles seconded the motion.

CA Morrison clarified the two motions.

The roll call vote to amended motion was as follows:

Commissioner Perry	Yea
Commissioner Puckett	Yea
Commissioner Knowles	Yea
Commissioner Lovell	Yea
Mayor Connelly	Yea

Five yeas, no nays, the Commission approved to amend the original motion.

The roll call vote on the original motion as amended was as follows:

Commissioner Puckett	Yea
Commissioner Knowles	Yea
Commissioner Lovell	Yea
Commissioner Perry	Yea
Mayor Connelly	Yea

Five yeas, no nays, the Commission approved the amended motion.

REVIEW CAPITAL PROJECTS BUDGET

CM Stock stated this topic does not require any formal action at this meeting.

Vanessa Bean, a citizen born and raised in Leesburg, stated she has three areas of concern with the main one being the Dabney Elementary School. She noted at the Community Meeting held June 24, 2003 the operating costs of Dabney Elementary were

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distributed. She handed out copies of those figures. She stated she is requesting \$300,000 to continue operating Dabney School.

The second area of concern is the spill at the Joy Convenience Store near Dabney. There has been a lack of communication to the people within the area. She questioned if any funds had been allocated for cleanup of the Dabney area from the spill at the Joy Convenience Store.

CM Stock stated this is under control of the Environmental Protection Agency. Tests have been done to check for contaminants, and a system to pump water from the ground and remove the contaminants from the water will be installed. The property owner will be assessed the costs. Staff is concerned the Agency is not moving as quickly as they should be. This is limiting the economic development in the area.

The third area of concern addressed by Ms. Bean is the community feels there have been empty promises made by the Mayor in regards to the funding for Dabney Elementary School.

Commissioner Lovell left the room at 6:11 p.m.

DCM Johnson stated staff is looking at options. Staff will recommend a RFP process to determine use for the property. Costs associated with operating Dabney will be lower if it is closed for several months. CM Stock added there have been discussions regarding where funds will come from to operate Dabney. He noted some will come from community grants but the partners in the venture (CDC, CH&VCRA, etc.) will be asked to contribute.

Commissioner Lovell returned to the room at 6:13 p.m.

Commissioner Perry stated until the marketing study is completed, nothing can be done in regards to Dabney Elementary.

Mayor Connelly stated Dabney is an historical site. He noted he will request \$300,000 to maintain the school if that is what is determined to be necessary. He will stand by this.

Commissioner Perry stated the intent of the School Board needs to be known for that property first.

APPROVE TECHNICAL CHANGES TO DRAFT BUDGET DOCUMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2003-04

Commissioner Perry moved to approve the technical changes to the draft budget document for Fiscal Year 2003-04. Commissioner Puckett seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

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DISCUSSION OF ELIMINATING THE LEESBURG REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY

CM Stock stated Commissioner Puckett had voiced a concern regarding recent Airport Authority Meetings. He suggested at the last meeting to abolish the Authority. Staff is recommending all boards be reviewed and by-laws set to make all of the boards more effective.

Commissioner Lovell stated the option of eliminating the Airport Authority Board should be kept as an option. He is agreeable to allow the Board to stand as long as business is conducted in a reasonable and non-contemptuous manner.

Commissioner Knowles stated the airport is growing and the City will be spending \$12 to \$14 million over the next few years at the airport. The current Board is made up of important business members of the City. Government in the Sunshine is important. Streamlining and improvements are necessary.

Commissioner Lovell moved to table the motion of abolishing the Airport Authority. Commissioner Knowles seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

CITY ATTORNEY ITEMS: None

CITY MANAGER ITEMS:

1. CM Stock advised there are three positions on the Planning and Zoning Board up for renewal and an alternate position. There are five candidates for the positions. CM Stock asked if interviews were necessary or if a ballot vote with a letter of interest would suffice.

Mayor Connelly suggested seeing letters of interest and to make decisions from that. All the Commissioners agreed.

ROLL CALL:

Commissioner Lovell – requested clarification. He noted the Boys Club needs financial assistance for next year. Can the money approved tonight be given to them now. CM Stock stated the approved funds could not be given until the budget is adopted. If the Commission requests giving additional funds from this year's budget an amendment would need to be done so the earliest a check could be cut would be September 9, 2003.

John Thomas, president of Boys and Girls Club, stated the crisis is now. Current costs are running at \$36,000 per month. Mr. Thomas is asking for the \$30,000 and utilities to get the doors re-opened. Staff is down to four people. The Club's funds have been heading down for a long time. It has been surviving from grants. CM Stock asked if the Parks and Recreation Department had any unused funds. Parks and Recreation Director Hartsfield stated they will have a surplus of approximately 5%.

Commission Perry moved to amend the budget by \$20,000 and do budget amendment later. Commissioner Knowles seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

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Commissioner Perry – None

Commissioner Puckett – None

Commissioner Knowles – the troops in Afghanistan have a need for batteries. If anyone would like to donate some batteries, he has an address.

Mayor Connelly – None

Commissioner Perry moved to adjourn and Commissioner Knowles seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Mayor

ATTEST:

Acting City Clerk

Diane L. Gibson Smith
Recorder

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